



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/759,890	01/16/2004	Eric Larson	2003P54492US/1331.130.101	8461

7590 03/28/2006

Dicke, Billig & Czaja, PLLC
Fifth Street Towers
Suite 2250
100 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402

EXAMINER

LEVI, DAMEON E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2841

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/759,890	LARSON, ERIC	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dameon E. Levi	2841	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ishigami et al US Patent 6830385.

Regarding claim 1, Ishigami et al discloses a module assembly comprising:

a ramp(element 163, Figs 5A-10B) ;

a release mechanism(element 110, Figs 5A-10B) mounted to the transceiver module and movable between at least a first position and a second position; and

a movable actuator (element 118, Figs 5A-10B) coupled to the release mechanism,

wherein the actuator does not deflect the cage latch when the release mechanism is in

the first position(elements 118,106 Figs 5A-10B), wherein the actuator moves along the

Art Unit: 2841

ramp as the release mechanism is moved from the first position to the second position(elements 118,110 Figs 5A-10B), and wherein the actuator deflects the cage latch when the release mechanism is in the second position such that the transceiver module can be removed from the cage(elements 118, 110, Figs 5A-10B).

Regarding claim 2, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the actuator has an actuator arm (element 113, Figs 5A-10B) to engage the release mechanism and wherein the actuator has tines(element 117, Figs 5A-10B) configured to move along the ramp.

Regarding claim 3, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the tines are shaped to slope upward from the actuator(element 117, Figs 5A-10B).

Regarding claim 4, Ishigami et al discloses further including a projection(element 116, Figs 5A-10B) configured to engage the latch of the cage.

Regarding claim 5, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the cage latch has a slot(element 204, Figs 5A-10B)through which the projection projects when the release mechanism in the first position and wherein the projection is removed from the slot when the actuator deflects the cage latch when the release mechanism is in the second position.

Regarding claim 6, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the release mechanism(element 119, Figs 5A-10B) is a rotatable handle mounted to the transceiver module.

Regarding claim 7, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the transceiver module has a front face and wherein the handle is in the first position when it extends parallel to the front face and wherein the handle is in the second position when it extends perpendicular to the front face(element 119, Figs 5A-10B).

Regarding claim 8, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the transceiver module has a

Art Unit: 2841

front face and wherein the handle is in the first position when it extends parallel to the front face and wherein the handle is in the second position when it extends at an angle 50 degrees relative to the front face(element 119, Figs 5A-10B).

Regarding claim 9, Ishigami et al discloses a module assembly comprising:

a ramp (element 163, Figs 5A-10B) on the interface surface of the transceiver module, the ramp having a ramp surface that slopes away from the interface surface of the transceiver module and toward the cage latch;

an actuator(element 118, Figs 5A-10B) adjacent the interface surface of the transceiver module and configured to be movable on the ramp surface;

a release handle(element 119, Figs 5A-10B) mounted on the transceiver module and coupled to the actuator such that rotating the release handle in a first direction causes the actuator to move along the ramp surface toward the cage latch thereby moving the cage latch away from the interface surface and such that rotating the release handle in a second direction causes the actuator to move along the ramp surface toward the interface surface and away from the cage latch.

Regarding claim 10, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the actuator has an actuator arm (element 113, Figs 5A-10B) to engage the release handle and wherein the actuator has tines configured to move along the ramp surface.

Regarding claim 11, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the tines are shaped to slope upward from the actuator(element 117, Figs 5A-10B).

Art Unit: 2841

Regarding claim 12, Ishigami et al discloses further including a projection(element 136, Figs 5A-10B)configured to project away from the interface surface and toward the cage such that the projection engages the cage latch when the actuator has not moved the cage latch away from the interface surface and such that the projection does not engage the cage latch when the actuator has moved the cage latch away from the interface surface.

Regarding claim 14, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the cage latch has a slot(element 204, Figs 5A-10B) through which the projection projects when the actuator has not moved the cage latch away from the interface surface.

Regarding claim 15, Ishigami et al, wherein the release handle (element 119, Figs 5A-10B) can be rotated in the first direction such that the actuator moves cage latch away from the interface surface sufficient to provide clearance between the cage latch and the projection so that the transceiver module can be removed from the cage.

Regarding claim 15, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the ramp surface is linear(element 163, Figs 5A-10B).

Regarding claim 16, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the ramp surface is curved away from the interface surface(element 163, Figs 5A-10B).

Regarding claim 17, Ishigami et al discloses a system comprising:

a printed circuit board(element 202, Figs 5A-10B);

a cage structure (element 201, Figs 5A-10B)fixed to the printed circuit board, the cage structure having an opening (element 175, Figs 5A-10B)and a latch(element 114, Figs 5A-10B) adjacent the opening, the latch further including a latch slot;

Art Unit: 2841

a transceiver module(element 101, Figs 5A-10B) pluggable into the opening of the cage structure, the transceiver module having a module projection(element 136, Figs 5A-10B), a ramp (element 163, Figs 5A-10B)a release mechanism(element 110, Figs 5A-10B) and an actuator(element 113, Figs 5A-10B) , wherein the transceiver module(element 101, Figs 5A-10B) is retained within the cage(element 201, Figs 5A-10B) by the engagement of the module projection(element 136, Figs 5A-10B) with the latch slot and wherein the transceiver module is removable from the cage by moving the release mechanism such that it forces the actuator along the ramp such that the actuator engages the cage latch and frees the module projection from the latch slot.

Regarding claim 18, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the release mechanism is a rotatable handle(element 119, Figs 5A-10B) mounted on the transceiver module, and wherein the transceiver module has a front face.

Regarding claim 19, Ishigami et al discloses wherein transceiver module is retained within the cage by the engagement of the module projection with the latch slot when the handle extends parallel to the front face(Figs 5A-10B).

Regarding claim 20, Ishigami et al discloses wherein the transceiver module is removable from the cage as the cage latch is free of the module projection when the handle extends at an angle 50 degrees relative to the front face(element 119, Figs 5A-10B).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dameon E. Levi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2105. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (9:00 - 5:00).


Art Unit: 2841

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dameon E Levi
Examiner
Art Unit 2841

DEL



K. Cuneo
SPE 2841